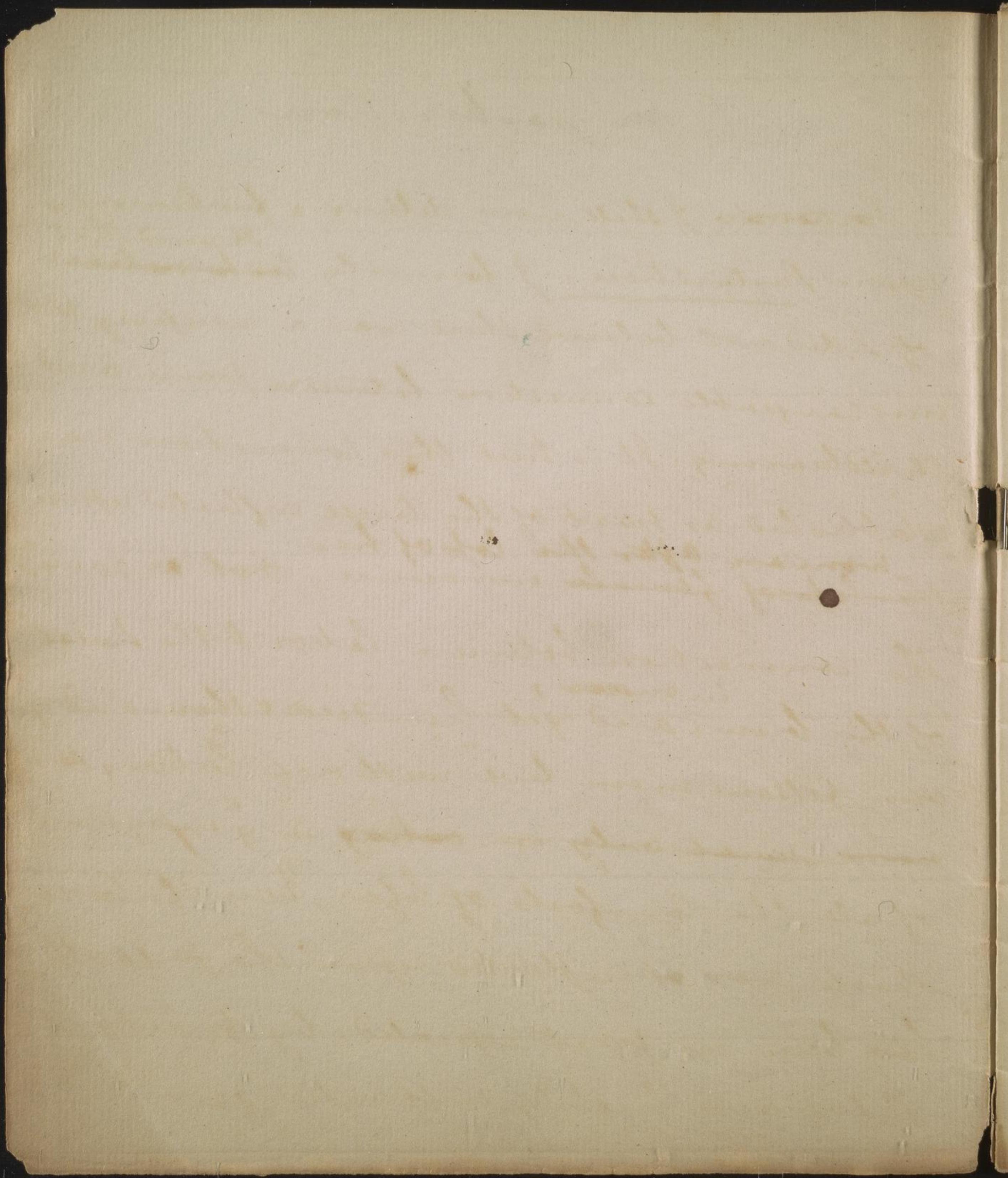


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on partition



Friends I shall now deliver a few Remarks  
upon Pasturition. I formerly <sup>observed that</sup> ~~took notice~~  
of I did not believe there was a necessary &  
unchangeable connection between pain and  
childbearing. It is true this connection was  
established as part of the curse inflicted upon  
~~the woman after the loss of her~~  
~~the loss of female innocence, But a woman~~  
the connection between labor & the sweat  
of the brow, and yet hundreds & thousands of  
our fellow men live without labor, &  
~~never sweat only in eating~~ in <sup>the</sup> enjoyment  
of all the comforts of life. Even the curse  
which was inflicted upon the ~~po~~ earth  
has been in part repealed, by fruitful  
fields and highly cultivated gardens in



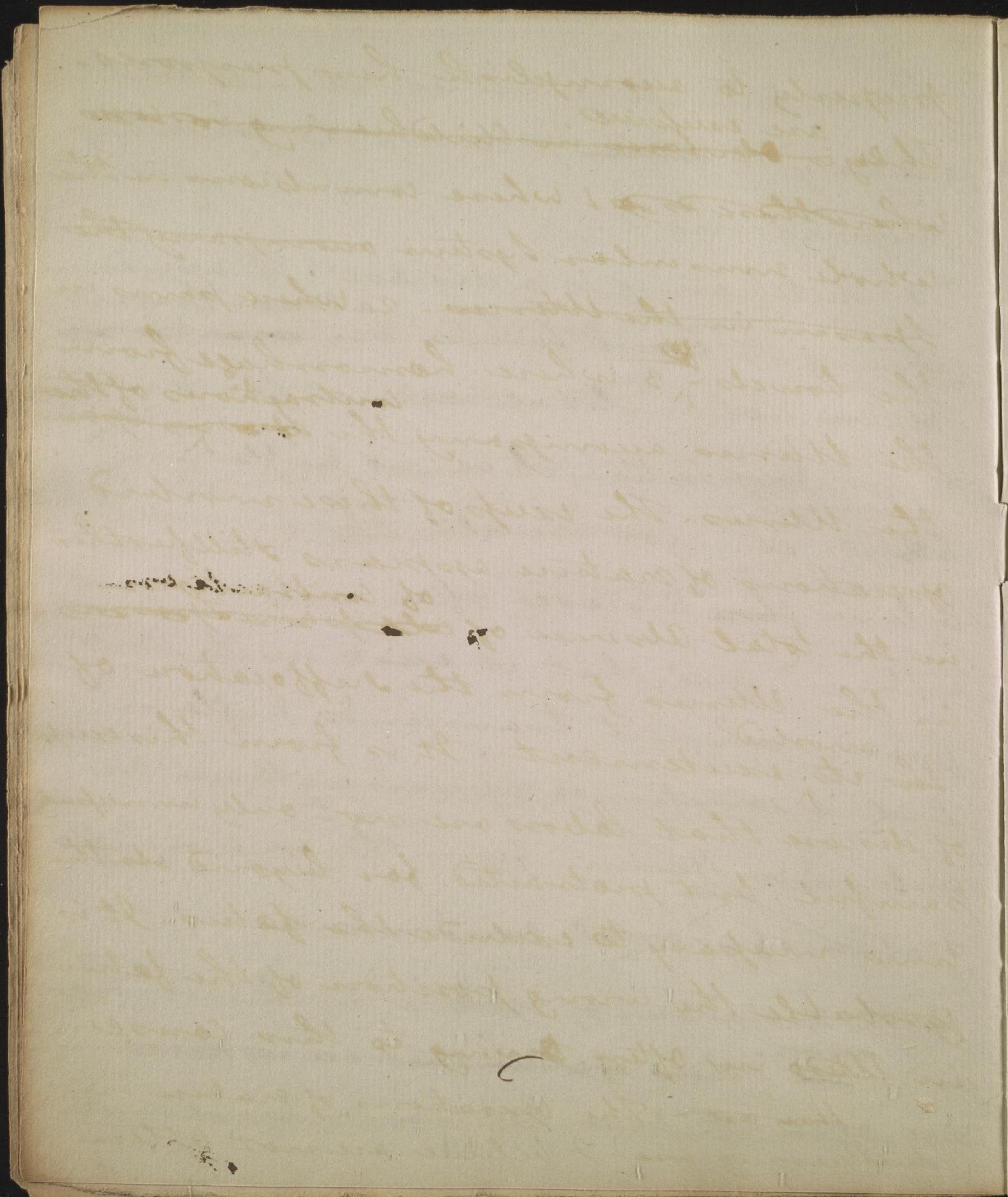
so many parts of the world succeeding  
briers and thorns. The pain of childbearing  
has been greatly mitigated in Turkey by the  
use of Sweet Oil (which acts as a gentle  
purge) during pregnancy. Climate has  
done the same thing in Sicily according  
to Bydone, and in some of the West India  
Islands according to the report of Dr Taylor  
an eminent man midwife in St. L'isles. Our  
ignorance therefore into the means of lessening  
the pains of childbearing is not ~~an~~ <sup>calculated</sup> to  
defeat a law of ~~nature~~ <sup>nature</sup>. It is Heaven  
has kindly in the instances that have been  
mentioned pointed out <sup>some of</sup> the means for that  
purpose. — To prepare us for the use of  
these the Remedies which are calculated to  
mitigate the pains of  
~~render the childbearing easy~~ <sup>at all</sup>

24 Previously to Childbearing, the System  
is generally plethoric and excitable from  
the Appetite, and want of exercise.  
from the influence of the  
young and ~~old~~ distended state  
of the Uterus upon the whole System.

times, & in all countries, it will be  
necessary to deliver premise the following  
propositions. —

1 Childbearing is a disease. It appears in  
a clonic spasm. One of its worst forms viz Convulsions.  
It does not militate against the truth  
of this proposition, that no inflam<sup>n</sup>  
attends it; — for we all I hope now  
believe that disease often exists without  
inflam<sup>n</sup>: and that it exists in its worst  
forms, when it transcends inflam<sup>n</sup>:  
But it sometimes appears without con-  
vulsion or spasm, from the ex<sup>n</sup>p, or deple-  
ction of morbid excitement.

3 The operations of nature in this disease  
as in <sup>most</sup> all others of a ~~no~~ that are violent  
are often explosive, deficient, or not directed



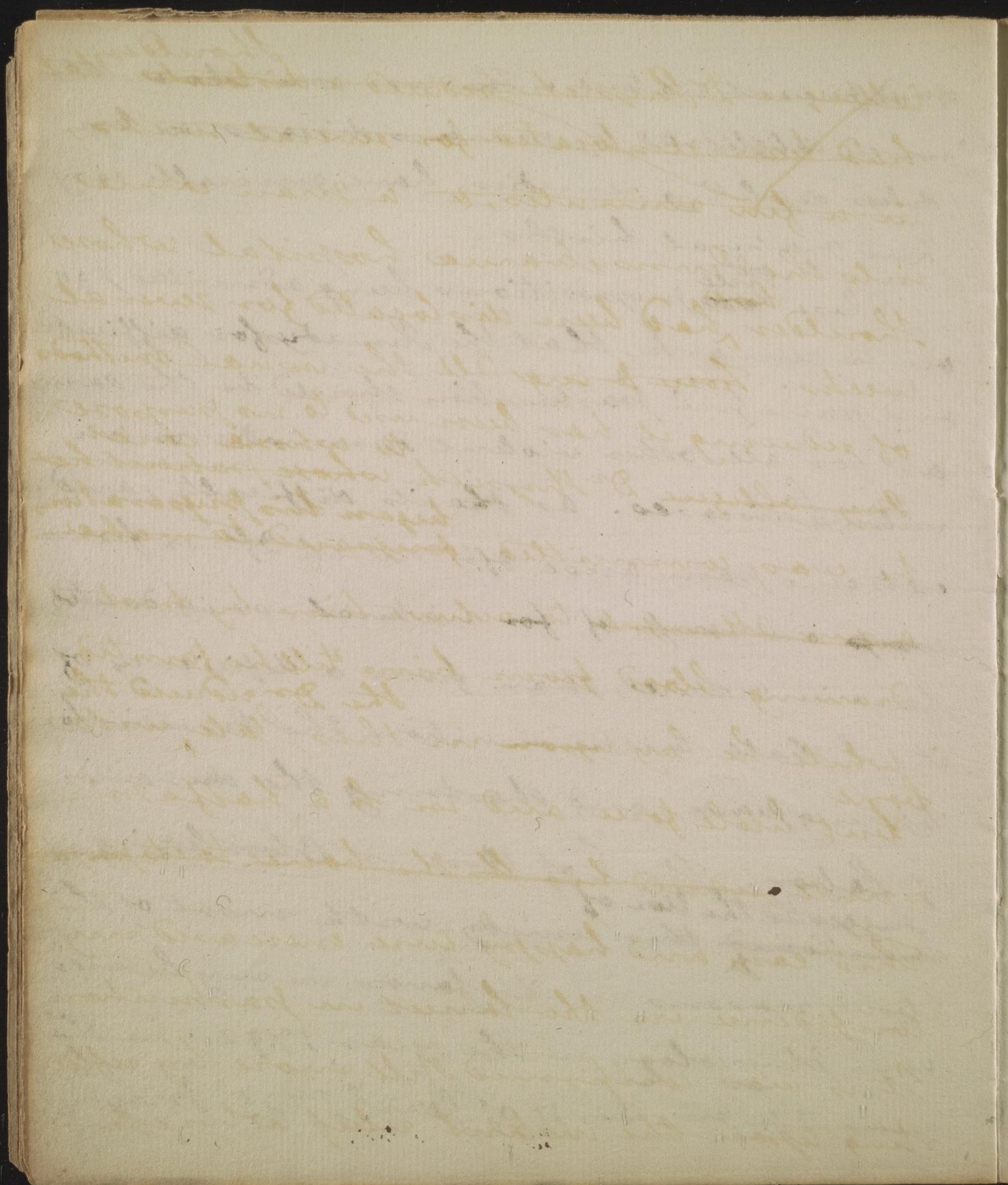
properly to accomplish her purposes.  
They are ~~obstetric~~ <sup>are excepted</sup> in childbearing in ~~other~~  
where there is 1 where convulsions in the  
whole muscular system accompany the  
~~spasms in the uterus~~ 2 where pains in  
the bowels - 3 where hemorrhage from  
the uterus <sup>contractions of the</sup> ~~accompany the spasms~~  
the uterus. The except of these morbid  
operations of nature appears still further  
in the total absence of ~~other~~ <sup>of contractions</sup>  
in the uterus from the suffocation of  
<sup>the</sup> ~~its~~ <sup>morbid</sup> excitement. It is from this except  
of disease that labors are not only unceasingly  
painful, but protracted far beyond its the  
time necessary to exclude the fetus. It is  
probable the wrong position of the fetus  
in uterus is often owing to this cause.

They are the operations of nature in  
childbearing case I believe are not often

2  
a abe ammow. It is a good place to  
see the birds of the marsh. The  
birds are numerous and varied. The  
waterfowl are the most numerous, with  
many species of ducks, geese, and  
swans. There are also many shorebirds,  
such as sandpipers, greenshanks, and  
curlews. The marsh is also a good place  
to see songbirds, including warblers,  
robin, and blue jay. The marsh is  
also a good place to see mammals,  
such as muskrat, beaver, and mink.  
The marsh is a great place to see  
the beauty of nature and the  
wonderful variety of life that  
exists in the wetlands of the  
Great Lakes region.

of a deficient nature. The woman who are the most debilitated by previous diseases, or by delay depleting remedies, have generally easy and natural births.

These ~~two~~<sup>three</sup> propositions being admitted I go on to remark, that the Remedies for difficult and painful parturition should be the same as for all other violent spasmodic, or convulsive diseases. As the its difficulty, and extreme pain arise oft much often from ~~weak~~ an want of for natural, or ill directed force in nature, than from a deficiency of it, I shall briefly mention the Remedies for sprung pain, and shortening the duration of labor. The <sup>1</sup> of these is Blood letting. I suggested the use of mentioned this remedy with most of the above reasons in its favor in my lectures upon Physiology in the year 1792. In the year 17 on the 18 of Jan<sup>r</sup> 1795 my



Should my ~~colleague Dr Physick~~ succeed a ~~dislocated~~ <sup>shoulder</sup> that  
had been dislocated for several weeks,  
in a few minutes, & a man came  
into the Pennsylvania Hospital whose  
shoulder <sup>bone</sup> had been dislocated for several  
weeks. ~~For~~ <sup>despite</sup> all the usual methods  
of reducing it has been used to no purpose.  
~~My colleague Dr Physick whose patient he~~ <sup>to whose care</sup>  
~~he was committed, prepared to make~~ <sup>began his preparations</sup>  
a new attempt to relieve him by first  
drawing blood from him till he fainted.  
The Dr reduced the  
while he lay upon in this state with  
but little force, and in a half a mi-  
-nute ~~removed his~~ <sup>the</sup> bone to its proper  
This easy and happy cure increased my  
confidence in the lancet in fracturition.  
It is was confirmed still more by reflect-  
ing upon the instant relief which

~~8 The~~

✓ ~~From~~ The practice I am now advising however  
contrary to common prejudice I am happy  
to hear is not new. I have this day heard  
that it is recommended in the Journal  
of medicine for March 1774 by a french  
Physician. Feb: 24. 1802.

bleeding affords, in colics, convulsions &c  
all other violent muscular & nervous  
diseases. But my high opinion of this  
remedy in the childbearing no longer  
rests upon <sup>reasoning &</sup> analogy. Dr Denys has used  
it often; and with <sup>the</sup> happiest effects.  
Dr Brown formerly a pupil of Dr Physick  
has introduced <sup>it</sup> into his practice in the  
- ties County, and to <sup>an</sup> extent which has  
added greatly to its the benefits derived  
from it. He seldom draws up than  $\frac{1}{2}$  30  
of blood in the beginning of a labor. Consi-  
- dering the predisposing causes <sup>of</sup> plethora  
and excitability which have been mentioned, I can easily con-  
- cieve a larger quantity might be drawn  
in many cases with advantage. V

In addition to this copious loss of blood,  
the bowels should be plentifully opened by

✓ But the beneficial effects of this &c: and  
the other depurating remedies that have been men-  
tioned, I believe would extend much further.

They would probably prevent the inflamed  
breasts - the swelled legs - the obstructed lochia -  
the colics - the  
the uterine hemorrhages, the head aches &c  
fevers which so often follow delivery. Even  
the fetus would be benefitted by them, for  
it would suffer much less by from being  
compressed, and bruised in a tedious & painful  
passage <sup>1</sup> into the world.

means of Glysters, and the Diet & Drincks of  
should ~~be~~ consist of things that contain  
as little nourishment & stimulus as  
possible.

Perhaps an Advantage would arise  
from advising low diet to Women <sup>they</sup> ten  
days, or two weeks, before ~~the~~ <sup>they</sup> expect  
to be confined, and agreeably to the  
Turkish practice, to ~~not~~ <sup>from</sup> recommending  
violent purges during the last three  
months of their pregnancy ~~too~~ <sup>one</sup> or  
twice a week. The good effects of this  
regimen in lessening the violence of the  
small pox, and yellow fever encourage  
us to expect similar benefits from it  
in the violent disease of parturition.

throats  
& oppression and the slow progress of  
delivery, indicate a deficiency of ~~exertion~~  
strength in the system equal to its  
exigencies, Opium should be exhibited  
in proportion to the exigencies of the  
System. I think I have seen the he-  
aviest effects from that noble medicine  
in such cases in <sup>destroying a portion of</sup> ~~leaving the pains~~  
and shortening the duration of labor.

How far a dose of Opium so powerful  
as to <sup>suspend</sup> compose the action of the brain,  
might succeed in destroying pain altogether  
I know not, but the following fact  
shows that it has been destroyed by a  
disease which <sup>produced that effect upon the</sup> ~~suspended the action~~  
~~of the brain~~. A lady subject to Epileptic  
fits was delivered while I was attended

The cases of difficult & laborious painful  
delivery from a state of the system  
reduced below that state to which the  
above remedios are calculated to <sup>reduce</sup> remove  
it <sup>it</sup> is believe rarely occur. Most of the  
labors which <sup>I</sup> have met with in the  
last stage of consumption, & other chronic  
diseases, have been short, & comparatively  
easy. <sup>But</sup> ~~two~~ <sup>But one</sup> exceptions have occurred to this  
remark in the course of my practice.

Where there is reason to believe the  
~~contractions~~ <sup>combinations</sup> in the uterus will be too  
fable from direct weakness to expel  
the fetus, a cordial diet should be  
indulged previous to the expected time  
of confinement, and when the absence

of a child in one of her fits. Immediately afterwards she fell asleep. Joshua her child was dressed and placed by her side. In the morning ~~she~~ as soon as she awoke she saw this child, and asked with surprise, whose <sup>upon bringing</sup> it was, ~~nor did she~~ believe ~~for so~~ ~~was~~ ~~told~~ told it was hers, she declared that she had no recollection of having felt the least pain in bringing it into the world. This information was communicated to me by the husband of the lady, on the day of the same morning in which it occurred, for I was at that time attending her for another indisposition.

You will